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going. I believe it was Senator Landis that found some \$400,000 somewhere to keep the program intact. I guess I'm a pragmatist enough, I'd like it to be \$7 million too, but I guess I'll settle for the \$2.5 million every year, rather than finding myself in the predicament that we were last year. Return the rest of the time to the Chair.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I too go along with what Senator Johnson just said. When we... I remember when we went through what we were going to do with the settlement money, and we spent a lot of time with that, the different committees. And other states have used that...those dollars to enhance their general fund, and for every reason in the world except for what it should have been used for. In Nebraska, we did do the right thing. But in doing the right thing, I do believe cessation dollars are probably one of the most important things we should be doing with that money. They talk about, part of the settlement, it has to do with health cost, as far as helping with the health cost of smoking. That's how the settlement was. But what's the best way to handle the health costs of smoking is preventing smoking in the first place. those dollars where they should be spent is to get young people and other people to quit smoking. I quit smoking 25 years ago. Year later, I had heart surgery. If I hadn't quit smoking, I'd be dead today. And I don't want any cheers over that. (Laugh) But the thing is, it's...that's what's important here, is And so these dollars should be first, as far as I'm concerned. And the...I remember when we did it, the \$7 million, and we did run out. And I do have a question for Senator Jensen, if he would respond.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Jensen, would you respond?

SENATOR ENGEL: The way I remember it, we did allocate that \$7 million, but it really was never spent, right?

SENATOR JENSEN: That is correct. It took a little while to get the program up and going. We wanted to make sure that the dollars spent were being spent properly, in good programs, best